**Baby Bird Season in Full Force, Fledglings Flooding Neighborhoods***Many Americans Unsure How to Handle Hatchlings*

FORT WORTH, TEXAS, May 10 - We've all been there. You're walking outside and a baby bird on the ground catches your eye. What should you do? If you touch it, the mom can smell you, right? For many people, this situation causes confusion. Here are a few preparation tips to help make the situation simple.

* **Learn the proper procedure** - Finding a baby bird stresses many people out, even those who are familiar with handling birds. Educate yourself through credible online resources or through your local wildlife refuge, such as the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge.
* **Keep Supplies Stocked as Spring Approaches** - Everyday items such as shoe boxes, paper towels and rags can aid in the handling and rescue of fledglings. A shoebox lined with towels and rags makes the perfect transportation for a fledgling. If you are unable to immediately bring the fledgling to a wildlife sanctuary, moist cat food is a valuable resource to feed found fledglings.
* **Know Who to Call** - If all else fails, keep numbers in mind of local wildlife refuges and sanctuaries to get help. If your local refuge is closed, there are several online resources available to help you care for a fledgling until you can get expert help.
* **Know the Locations of Your Local Wildlife Resources** - Although not all wildlife organizations can take in found birds, most can direct you to a wildlife rehabilitation center or animal control center near you. Call your local wildlife refuge or center for more information.
* **Tour With an Expert to Recognize All the Species** - With more than 600 species of birds residing in Texas, according to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, it is understandable to be confused when identifying birds. With the help of an expert and a field guide, you will be able to identify fledglings in your yard easily. Stop by the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge to speak with an expert and learn about the bird species living in the refuge. To get in touch with an expert, visit <www.fwnaturecenter.org>

**About the Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge**

The Fort Worth Nature Center & Refuge was designated as a National Natural Landmark by the National Park Service in 1980. The Nature Center is one of the largest city-owned nature centers in the United States, with approximately 3,261 acres. The center is home to three unique ecosystems and more than 20 miles of hiking trails. The center offers educational programs and summer activities for children. The Nature Center houses a conservation herd of bison as well as an exhibit of prairie dogs. All other animals at the center are free-roaming, including foxes, turtles, and more than 200 species of birds.

Dear Mr. Williams:

What would you do if you found a baby bird in your front yard or on the grass while you were walking down the street? Do you know how to handle it and get it to safety? Unfortunately, most North Texans are unsure how to handle fledglings who have fallen from their nests.

An article outlining tips to prepare for spring and early summer, when many baby birds are found fallen from their nests, would appeal to your audience of North Texans, who are concerned for Texas wildlife. These same North Texans tend to be unaware of how to handle the case of fallen baby birds, despite probably having several experiences with baby birds in the past.

This article would provide several tips to educate readers on the care of baby birds, as well as inform them of local wildlife resources they can turn to in times of need. The article would encourage your audience to protect and preserve beautiful North Texas wildlife.

Are you interested in the article I have outlined? If so, please call me at (469) 123-4567.

I have had five years of experience working as a volunteer at the Rogers Wildlife Sanctuary and Rehabilitation Center. Over the course of my volunteering, I have learned copious amounts of knowledge on the care of nestlings and fledglings, as well as the care of injured and sick adult birds.

Sincerely,  
Tana S. Ford